

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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1. The longest meeting to date of the Bureau of the Central Committee of the FDJ (Freie Deutsche Jugend) concerning the new conscription law was held on 27 September 1955. Plans are directed towards selective service. All the regulations are so framed as to give the DDR regime the widest maneuvering space possible as well as to preserve the form of a cadre-army.
2. All ministries have prepared detailed staff plans and statistics and the Ministry of Labor has distributed a "Qualifications plan" for skilled workers on the expectation that a two-year training period will be introduced for all professions. Women and girls will be used in factories to a greater extent than heretofore. They will be given training in new kinds of work in order to fill the gaps left by men who volunteer. The apprenticeship system (System der Anlernberufe) which is slated to begin again in the Soviet Zone will be speeded up, and lead to quicker qualification for skilled workers.
3. The first step will be the call up of 50,000 men of 18 years of age in February 1956 for two and one-half years service. This will follow the release of 25,000 KVP members who are presently serving.

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